## WHAT IS SAVE THE HARBOR/SAVE THE BAY?

We are a single-purpose grassroots organization committed to the cleanup of Boston Harbor and Massachusetts Bay before the end of the century. Our waters must become swimmable and fishable once more.

We're building a constituency to watchdog the people and agencies responsible for the cleanup. We hold an annual Town Meeting for Boston Harbor to monitor progress, give tours to show people the problem, and help them to learn what each person can do.

Our effectiveness is tied directly to our membership. We need you. Together we can bring life back to Boston Harbor.

## WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE CLEANUP?

Attempts at a cleanup began in 1972 when Congress first passed the Clean Water Act. But by 1982, nothing had been done. The city of Quincy sued the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) for violation of state and federal pollution laws. The case, tried before Judge Paul Garrity by William Golden and others, resulted in the creation of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) in 1985. The new agency, responsible for water and sewer services, was given the power to raise and manage funds, a power MDC lacked. A more recent federal case brought by the Conservation Law Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency, created a step by step schedule—each step to result in cleaner water. MWRA must clean up the harbor by 1999, but will it?

**Save the Harbor**
**Save the Bay**

3 Joy Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108 (617) 742-SAVE

77 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114

# BOSTON HARBOR

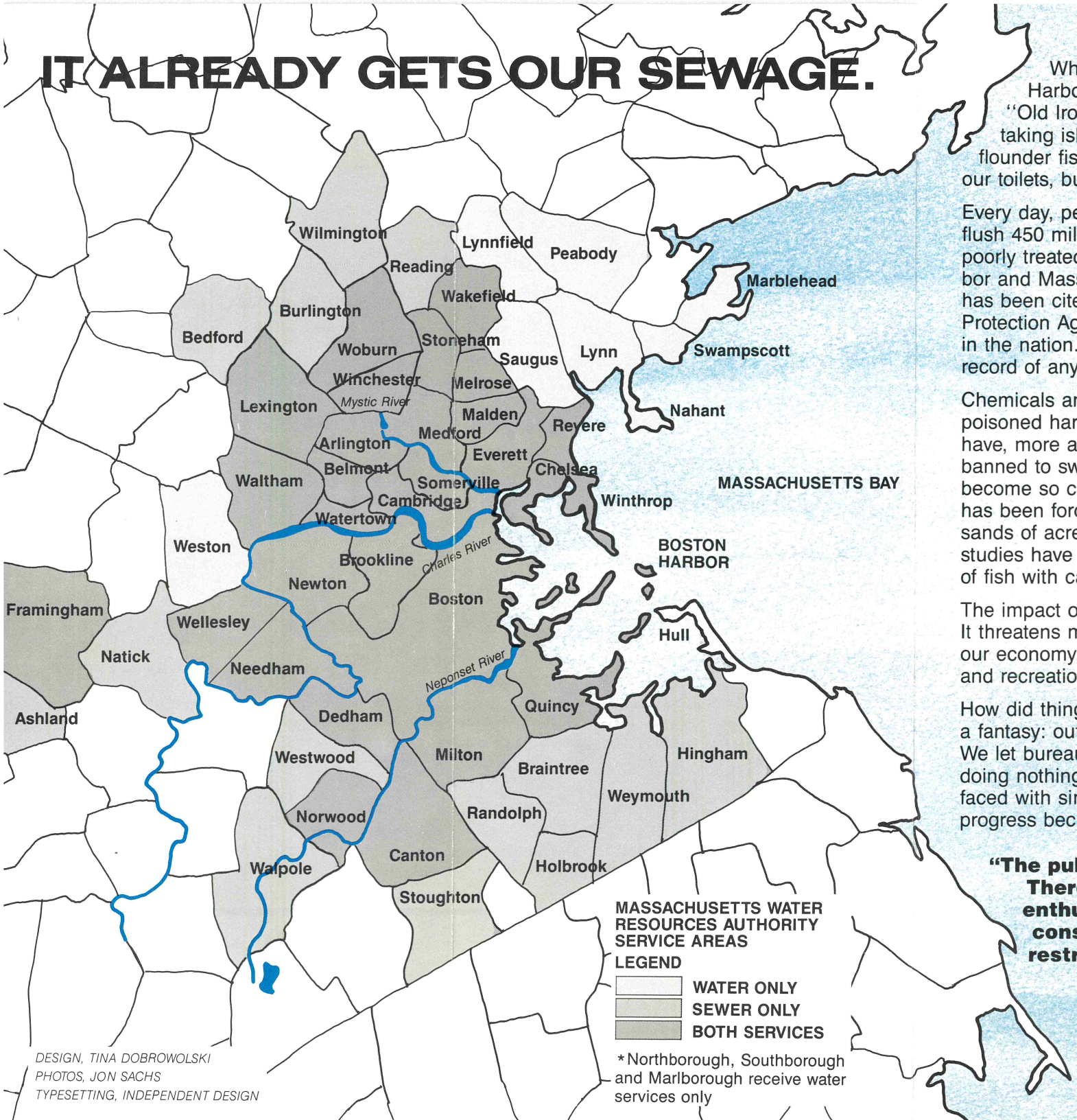
# NEEDS OUR HELP. . .

***"We need to protect the environment for our children. Already the harbor has been lost to one generation. We need to take active steps today so that our kids can enjoy the harbor tomorrow."***

***Senator William B. Golden***

***SAVE THE HARBOR/SAVE THE BAY***

# IT ALREADY GETS OUR SEWAGE.




When someone says Boston Harbor, what comes to mind? "Old Ironsides" perhaps, breathtaking islands, or world-famous flounder fishing. We don't think about our toilets, but we ought to.

Every day, people in 43 cities and towns flush 450 million gallons of raw and poorly treated sewage into Boston Harbor and Massachusetts Bay. The harbor has been cited by the Environmental Protection Agency as the most polluted in the nation. And we have the worst record of any city in cleaning it up.

Chemicals and bacteria have so poisoned harbor waters that beaches have, more and more frequently, been banned to swimmers. Shellfish have become so contaminated that the state has been forced to close down thousands of acres of shellfish beds. Recent studies have found increasing numbers of fish with cancerous growths.

The impact of the pollution is staggering. It threatens marine life, our health and our economy, and discourages tourism and recreation.

How did things get so bad? We accepted a fantasy: out of sight, out of mind. We let bureaucracies get away with doing nothing. Yet other coastal cities, faced with similar problems, made progress because citizens cried out.

**"The public has to be involved. There has to be a noisy, enthusiastic, demanding constituency; a barely-restrained, intelligent mob."**

**Ian Menzies**
**Save the Harbor**
**Save the Bay**

*DESIGN, TINA DOBROWOLSKI*
*PHOTOS, JON SACHS*
*TYPESETTING, INDEPENDENT DESIGN*